

Bill No. SJR 2170

Barcode 955924    Comm: RCS    03/29/2006 07:32 PM

Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on Judiciary

1                                Senate Joint Resolution

2                A joint resolution proposing the creation of

3                Section 8 of Article IX of the State

4                Constitution relating to education.

5  
6    Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:7  
8                That the following creation of Section 8 of Article IX  
9    of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted  
10   to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the  
11   next general election or at an earlier special election  
12   specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

13                                ARTICLE IX

14                                EDUCATION

15                Section 8. Equal opportunity to obtain a high quality  
16   education.--Every child deserves an equal opportunity to  
17   obtain a high quality education, regardless of his or her  
18   family's income, religion, or race.19                (a) Funding for a high quality public K-12 education  
20   through classroom instruction is fundamental. To make  
21   adequate provision for a high quality public K-12 education,  
22   at least sixty-five percent of school funding received by  
23   school districts shall be spent on classroom instruction,  
24   rather than administration. Classroom instruction and  
25   administration shall be defined by law.26                (b) Students in prekindergarten through college who  
27   have disabilities, are economically disadvantaged, or whose  
28   parents request alternatives to traditional public education  
29   programs may participate, as provided by law, in education  
30   programs that include non-public schools. The legislature may  
31   enact and publicly fund prekindergarten through college

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1 education programs, without regard to the religious nature of  
2 any participant or non-public provider, notwithstanding any  
3 other provision of this Article or Section 3 of Article I of  
4 this constitution.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be  
6 placed on the ballot:

7 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

8 ARTICLE IX, SECTION 8

9 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN A HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION.--  
10 Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to provide  
11 that every child deserves an equal opportunity to obtain a  
12 high quality education, regardless of his or her family's  
13 income, religion, or race; to provide that funding for high  
14 quality public K-12 education through classroom instruction is  
15 fundamental; to provide that to make adequate provision for a  
16 high quality public K-12 education, at least sixty-five  
17 percent of school funding received by school districts shall  
18 be spent on classroom instruction rather than administration;  
19 to provide that classroom instruction and administration shall  
20 be defined by law; to provide that students in prekindergarten  
21 through college who have disabilities, are economically  
22 disadvantaged, or whose parents request alternatives to  
23 traditional public education programs may participate, as  
24 provided by law, in education programs that include non-public  
25 schools; and to provide that the Legislature may enact and  
26 publicly fund prekindergarten through college education  
27 programs, without regard to the religious nature of any  
28 participant or non-public provider, notwithstanding any other  
29 provision of this Article or of Section 3 of Article I of the  
30 State Constitution.

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